PART I - ADMINISTRATIVE

Section 1. General administrative information

Title of project

North Fork John Day Area Riparian Fencing

BPA project number: 9303800
Contract renewal date (mm/yyyy): 10/1999 ☐ **Multiple actions?**

Business name of agency, institution or organization requesting funding
USDA Forest Service, Umatilla National Forest

Business acronym (if appropriate) USFS

Proposal contact person or principal investigator:

Name	John Sanchez
Mailing Address	Umatilla NF, 2517 S.W. Hailey Ave.
City, ST Zip	Pendleton, OR 97801
Phone	541-278-3819
Fax	541-278-3730
Email address	jsanchez/r6pnw_umatilla@fs.fed.us

NPPC Program Measure Number(s) which this project addresses
7.6B.5 7.6B.4 7.6C.5

FWS/NMFS Biological Opinion Number(s) which this project addresses
None

Other planning document references
Umatilla National Forest Plan

Short description
Protect riparian vegetation on 60 miles of streams in the North Fork John Day drainage that has recovered due to past project work. Primary project activities are resetting seasonal electric fence and construction of barbwire riparian exclosures.

Target species
John Day River Summer Steelhead, John Day River Spring Chinook, Redband Trout, Bull Trout

Section 2. Sorting and evaluation

Subbasin
John Day River

Evaluation Process Sort

CBFWA caucus	Special evaluation process	ISRP project type
Mark one or more	If your project fits either of these	Mark one or more categories

caucus	processes, mark one or both	
☒ Anadromous fish ☐ Resident fish ☐ Wildlife	☐ Multi-year (milestone-based evaluation) ☒ Watershed project evaluation	☐ Watershed councils/model watersheds ☐ Information dissemination ☒ Operation & maintenance ☐ New construction ☐ Research & monitoring ☐ Implementation & management ☐ Wildlife habitat acquisitions

Section 3. Relationships to other Bonneville projects

Umbrella / sub-proposal relationships. List umbrella project first.

Project #	Project title/description
	None

Other dependent or critically-related projects

Project #	Project title/description	Nature of relationship
	None	

Section 4. Objectives, tasks and schedules

Past accomplishments

Year	Accomplishment	Met biological objectives?
1995	Protect 60 miles of riparian habitat	Yes
1996	Protect 60 miles of riparian habitat	Yes
1997	Protect 60 miles of riparian habitat	Yes
1998	Protect 60 miles of riparian habitat	Yes

Objectives and tasks

Obj 1,2,3	Objective	Task a,b,c	Task
1	Protect Riparian Recovery on 60 miles of streams in the North Fork John Day drainage	a	Set 50 miles seasonal electric fence
		b	Maintain electric fence
		c	Construct 3 miles barbwire fence
		d	Maintain constructed barbwire exclosures.

Objective schedules and costs

Obj #	Start date mm/yyyy	End date mm/yyyy	Measureable biological objective(s)	Milestone	FY2000 Cost %
1	5/2000	11/2000			100.00%
				Total	100.00%

Schedule constraints
None

Completion date
2003

Section 5. Budget

FY99 project budget (BPA obligated): $55,000

FY2000 budget by line item

Item	Note	% of total	FY2000
Personnel		%51	34,700
Fringe benefits			
Supplies, materials, non-expendable property		%5	4,000
Operations & maintenance		%1	1,000
Capital acquisitions or improvements (e.g. land, buildings, major equip.)			
NEPA costs			
Construction-related support			
PIT tags	# of tags:		
Travel		%5	3,800
Indirect costs		%9	6,500
Subcontractor		%26	18,000
Other			
TOTAL BPA FY2000 BUDGET REQUEST			$68,000

Cost sharing

Organization	Item or service provided	% total project cost (incl. BPA)	Amount ($)
Total project cost (including BPA portion)			$68,000

Outyear costs

	FY2001	FY02	FY03	FY04
Total budget	$68,000	$68,000	$68,000	$ 0

Section 6. References

Watershed?	Reference
☐	Land and Resource Management Plan, Umatilla National Forest
☐	
☐	
☐	

PART II - NARRATIVE

Section 7. Abstract

The North Fork John Day seasonal electric fence project is critical to riparian recovery on streams throughout the North Fork John Day watershed that are impacted by livestock grazing. The project has multiple benefits including water quality, floodplain restoration, wildlife habitat, streambank recovery, and fish habitat restoration. Since 1993, about 76 miles of seasonal electric livestock exclosure fence has been constructed to protect and restore approximately 60 miles of riparian habitat. Monitoring results indicate that the fences were 98 percent effective in excluding livestock.

The project objective is to improve fish habitat by restoring riparian vegetation and floodplain function. The long-term habitat benefits are lower water temperatures, improved hiding cover, and more organic nutrient input.

Section 8. Project description

a. Technical and/or scientific background

During 1993 to 1995 about 76 miles of seasonal electric livestock exclosure fences have been constructed to protect and restore about 60 miles of riparian habitat with funding from BPA. During 1996 and 1997, 16 miles of that fence have been replaced with barbed wire fence to provide more permanent protection funded by BPA and other sources. Monitoring results indicate that seasonal fences were 98 percent effective in excluding livestock. In order to continue to achieve the project objectives of improving fish habitat by restoring riparian vegetation and riparian ecosystem function, those seasonal exclosures require resetting of the polytape wire and chargers prior to the grazing season and the removal after the grazing season. Periodic maintenance and replacement of some components are also necessary.

The need for the creation of summer survival habitat for juvenile fish in the North Fork John Day drainage was the major objective of BPA contract work in the 1980's under contract number 8400800. Recent analysis for effects of ongoing projects in the unpublished watershed biological assessment for bull trout confirmed the importance of improving water quality to benefit fish production. Riparian vegetation recovery will benefit water quality and improve fish habitat.

b. Rationale and significance to Regional Programs

The rationale for the continuation of this ongoing project is to provide the necessary livestock distribution management tools to ensure riparian vegetation recovery. Improved riparian vegetation condition has a direct effect on improving water quality and fish habitat conditions.

The project addresses Measure 7.6B.4 by giving priority to actions that maximize the desired result per dollar spent and to actions that have a high probability of succeeding at a reasonable cost.

The project also addresses Measure 7.6C.5 which calls for Federal land and water management agencies, states, tribes, and private landowners to take all steps necessary to comply with habitat objectives. Permittees take an active role in controlling the distribution of cattle on the National Forest allotments to help promote the recovery of riparian vegetation.

Wy-Kan-Ush-Mi-Wa-Kisk-Wit, the spirit of the salmon, identifies the need for active habitat restoration that would not occur via natural processes for prolonged periods. This project is an example of active restoration that is fully supported by private cattle ranchers, Federal agencies, and Tribes.

c. Relationships to other projects

This project is not dependent on or in conflict with any other proposal.

This project complements the efforts of past project 84-8, a 13-year habitat restoration project with a 2.5 million dollar investment in improved summer survival habitat for rearing juvenile salmons. Project 84-8 has been concluded. The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation are also proposing a riparian recovery project (New start in FY2000) in the John Day basin with the focuses on improving conditions on private land.

d. Project history (for ongoing projects)

This ongoing project began in 1993 as a test of the idea that seasonal electric fence could be effective at controlling cattle distribution on the National Forest. Monitoring results indicate that seasonal electric fence is 98 percent effective in excluding livestock. In several instances, the seasonal electric fence was replaced with long-term barbed wire exclosures. This project is an example of adaptive management and has proven itself effective. Riparian vegetation recovery has been protected along 60 miles of streams in the North Fork John Day drainage for the past 6 years. The riparian areas were selected base on their importance to anadromous fish production.

e. Proposal objectives

Project objectives are very simple and straight forward. They are to continue the seasonal riparian exclosures to improve fish habitat and water quality through continued riparian vegetation recovery. Project objectives can be monitored by observing the effectiveness of livestock exclusion and by measuring riparian vegetation growth.

This proposed project provides operations and maintenance funding to protect BPA's investment in fish habitat restoration and riparian vegetation recovery.

f. Methods

Project methods have been described in monitoring reports and annual work statements. The project consists of resetting and maintenance of the electric fence exclosures. Clearing of existing fence right-of-way and replacement of damaged or missing insulators and steel posts. The operation of the electric fence is regularly inspected during the grazing period. This proposal also includes replacing 3 miles of seasonal electric fence with barbwire fence.

g. Facilities and equipment

The only equipment purchased are replacement items such as electric fence tape, batteries, chargers, and hand tools. There are no facilities expenses.

h. Budget

The majority of the budget (51%) is used for salary to fund the installation and ensure the effectiveness of the seasonal electric fence. Replacement of worn out materials such as electric tape, chargers, batteries, and fence posts is 5 percent of the proposed budget. The subcontract expenses is for fence construction. Travel expenses (5%) are vehicle costs to get the crew to the fence sites. Our project administration, identified as indirect cost, is 9 percent of the budget request.

Section 9. Key personnel

John Sanchez, Project Manager
USDA Forest Service
Fish Biologist

1979 B.S. Humboldt State University
Fish Biology and Wildlife Management

1987 Certified Fisheries Scientist
American Fisheries Society.

John has 20 years of experience as a professional fisheries biologist. He has worked as a District Fisheries Biologist on three Districts in the Forest Service and has been the Forest Fish Biologist on the Umatilla NF since 1987. John's duties have included BPA Project Manager for the past 11 years.

Section 10. Information/technology transfer

Seasonal electric fence methods have been shared at habitat restoration workshops and professional society meetings. The staff at the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation has recently expressed interest in the project techniques because of their flexibility to meet an imediate need when permanent fence constrution is not practical. We will continue to share our experience at every available opportunity.

Congratulations!